UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1991/122
25 July 1991

Original: ENGLISH

Second regular session of 1991
Geneva, 3-26 July 1991
Agenda item 7

REGIONAL COOPERATION

Report of the First (Economic) Committee (Part I)*

1. The First (Economic) Committee considered the question of regional cooperation (agenda item 7) at its 4th, 5th, 9th, 10th and 15th meetings, on 11, 15, 17 and 22 July. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Summary of the economic and social survey of Asia and the Pacific, 1990 (E/1991/45);

(b) Summary of the economic survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1990 (E/1991/56);

(c) Letter dated 16 April 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Economic and Social Council (E/1991/59);

(d) Summary of the economic survey of Europe in 1990-1991 (E/1991/64);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General on the Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar (E/1991/67);

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* The report on regional cooperation consists of two parts. Part II contains the draft proposals recommended for adoption in the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation (E/1991/97).

GE.91-71533/3440B

(f) Summary of the survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1989-1990 (E/1991/70);

(g) Summary of the survey of economic and social developments in the ESCWA region, 1990 (E/1991/92);

(h) Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation (E/1991/97 and Add.1);

(i) Statement submitted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category I (E/1991/NGO/4).

2. At its 4th and 5th meetings, on 11 and 15 July, the Committee held a general discussion on the item.

3. At its 4th meeting, on 11 July, it heard an introductory statement by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and current coordinator of the regional commissions.

4. Also at the 4th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community), the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Thailand, Yugoslavia, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Japan, Austria, Mexico, Indonesia, Morocco and China and the observers for Australia, Senegal and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (on behalf of the Arab States).

5. At the 5th meeting, on 15 July, statements were made by the representatives of Bahrain, Algeria, Chile, Pakistan, Romania, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Zambia and Ecuador and the observer for Egypt.

Membership of Israel in the Economic Commission for Europe

6. At the 9th meeting, on 17 July, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf of Australia, 1/ Austria, Belgium, 1/ Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, 1/, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, 1/ Hungary, 1/ Iceland, 1/ Ireland, 1/ Italy, Kenya, Luxembourg, 1/ the Netherlands, Norway, 1/ Poland, 1/ Portugal, 1/ Romania, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.3) entitled "Membership of Israel in the Economic Commission for Europe".

7. At the 15th meeting, on 22 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ahmed Amaziane (Morocco), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution.

1/ In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

8. Also at the 15th meeting, the observer for the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya made a statement on behalf of the Arab States.

9. At the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement in which he proposed that no action be taken on the draft resolution.

10. Statements in support of that proposal were made by the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq.

11. At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a roll-call vote was taken on the proposal to take no action on the draft resolution.

12. The Committee rejected the proposal to take no action on the draft resolution by a roll-call vote of 30 to 15, with 5 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Bahrain, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Malaysia, Morocco, Pakistan, Somalia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Zambia.

Against: Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Romania, Rwanda, Spain, Sweden, Togo, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Bahamas, China, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Yugoslavia.

13. The Committee then adopted draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.3 by a roll-call vote of 32 to 14, with 4 abstentions (see para. 27 below, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Romania, Rwanda, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Algeria, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Malaysia, Morocco, Pakistan, Somalia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Zambia.

Abstaining: Botswana, China, Trinidad and Tobago, Yugoslavia.

14. After the draft resolution was adopted, statements were made by the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.

Cooperation in fisheries in Africa

15. At the 9th meeting, on 17 July, the representative of Morocco, on behalf of Angola, 1/ Cameroon, Cape Verde, 1/ Congo, 1/, Côte d'Ivoire, 1/ Gabon, 1/ the Gambia, 1/ Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, 1/ Morocco, Nigeria, 1/ Senegal, 1/, Togo and Zaire, introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.5) entitled "Cooperation in fisheries in Africa".

16. At the 15th meeting, on 22 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Amaziane (Morocco), read out the following revisions, which had been agreed upon during informal consultations:

(a) The fifth preambular paragraph, which had read:

"Stressing the importance of the preservation and conservation of fishery resources through clear-cut and rational management compatible with the North-South framework of cooperation, which safeguards the interests of both the countries of the region and the industrialized countries that seek these resources",

was replaced by the following text:

"Stressing the importance of the preservation and conservation of fishery resources through regional cooperation and rational management compatible with the North-South framework of cooperation, which safeguards the interests of both the African countries of the Atlantic region and the developed countries that seek these resources",

(b) In operative paragraph 5, the words "industrialized countries in the North" were replaced by the words "developed countries";

(c) In operative paragraph 6, the words "as appropriate" were inserted after the words "contribute generously";

(d) In operative paragraph 7, the words "the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in consultation with" were inserted before the words "the Chairman of the Conference".

17. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.5, as orally revised (see para. 27 below, draft resolution II).

Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar

18. At the 9th meeting, on 17 July, the representative of Morocco, on behalf also of Spain, introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.6) entitled "Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar". Subsequently, France, Greece, Italy and Portugal joined in sponsoring the resolution.

19. At the 15th meeting, on 22 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Amaziane (Morocco) read out the following revisions, which had been agreed upon during informal consultations:

(a) In operative paragraph 2, the words "development of land transport arteries leading on either side to the Strait of Gibraltar and the harmonization of administrative and customs procedures" were replaced by the words "development of land transport infrastructures linked to the works across the Strait of Gibraltar and cooperation in regard to administrative and customs procedures".

(b) In operative paragraph 5, the words "within existing priorities" were inserted after the words "Economic Commission for Europe".

20. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.6, as orally revised (see para. 27 below, draft resolution III).

Phase II of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994

21. At the 10th meeting, on 17 July, the representative of Indonesia, on behalf of Bahrain, China, Egypt, 1/ Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, 1/ the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Viet Nam, 1/ Yemen 1/ and Zaire, introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.7) entitled "Phase II of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994".

22. At the 15th meeting, on 22 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Amaziane (Morocco), informed the Committee that during informal consultations held on the draft resolution, it had been agreed to delete operative paragraph 4 and, in operative paragraph 6, to replace the words "developed countries" by the words "donor countries".

23. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see para. 27 below, draft resolution IV).

Promotion of interregional cooperation in the area of international trade facilitation

24. At the 10th meeting, on 17 July, the representative of Bulgaria, on behalf of Australia, 1/ Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, 1/ Bulgaria, Denmark, 1/ Egypt, 1/ France, Germany, Greece, 1/ Indonesia, Ireland, 1/ Italy, Jordan, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Poland, 1/ Romania, Spain, Swaziland, 1/ Togo, the United Kingdom of Great Brita[illegible] and Northern Ireland, Yemen 1/ and Yugoslavia, introduced a draft resolution ([illegible]1991/C.1/L.8) entitled "Promotion of interregional cooperation in the area of international trade facilitation". Subsequently, Peru joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

25. At the 15th meeting, on 22 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Amaziane (Morocco), informed the Committee that, during informal consultations, it had been agreed to revise the draft resolution by inserting the words "elaboration and" before the word "implementation" in the last preambular paragraph, and by deleting the words "Members of the United Nations" after the word "States" in operative paragraph 2.

26. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.8, as orally revised (see para. 27 below, draft resolution V).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

27. The First (Economic) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Membership of Israel in the Economic Commission for Europe

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering the wide range of economic relations that exist between Israel and the States members of the Economic Commission for Europe,

Also considering that Israel has expressed its readiness to contribute to the work of the Commission by accepting the responsibilities inherent in full membership,

Further considering that, at its forty-sixth session, the Commission took note of the renewal of the application of Israel to the Council for temporary admission as a member of the Commission and looked forward to a decision by the Council on the admission of Israel in accordance with its application, 2/

Decides to amend paragraph 7 of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Europe by adding Israel to the list of members of the Commission in accordance with its request for temporary admission as a member of the Commission, as contained in the letter dated 16 April 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Economic and Social Council. 3/

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 15 (E/1991/36), para. 258.

3/ E/1991/59.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Cooperation in fisheries in Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1990/77 of 27 July 1990,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 45/184 of 21 December 1990, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit, in close consultation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to the Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1992, a report on cooperation in fisheries in Africa, including recommendations for its enhancement,

Aware of the importance of regional agreements for the promotion and development of fishery resources,

Concerned about the need to encourage these initiatives directed towards attaining food self-sufficiency, improving nutrition, diversifying exports and promoting employment,

Stressing the importance of the preservation and conservation of fishery resources through regional cooperation and rational management compatible with the North-South framework of cooperation, which safeguards the interests of both the African countries of the Atlantic region and the developed countries that seek these resources,

Bearing in mind the fact that the fisheries sector can foster the development and economic growth of developing countries,

1. Expresses satisfaction with the significant progress made by the follow-up committee of the Ministerial Conference on Cooperation in Fisheries among the African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean;

2. Takes note with satisfaction of the convening in Dakar, under the chairmanship of Senegal, of the second session of the Ministerial Conference on Cooperation in Fisheries among the African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean, from 1 to 5 July 1991, during which a number of relevant decisions were made and certain programmes prepared;

3. Welcomes the adoption by the Conference of a Regional Convention designed to regulate and strengthen their cooperation;

4. Takes note of the establishment of a secretariat in charge of the follow-up and implementation of that Convention;

5. Appeals to the entire international community to follow the rational management of fishery resources, including stock maintenance, in the interest of both the African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean and the developed countries involved in exploiting its resources;

6. Requests the organizations of the United Nations system, donor States and agencies involved in providing assistance and funding to contribute generously as appropriate to the implementation of the programmes and projects prepared during the Conference;

7. Invites the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in consultation with the Chairman of the Conference, to submit a report, as appropriate, to the Economic and Social Council on the progress made and the results obtained.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1982/57 of 30 July 1982, 1983/62 of 29 July 1983, 1984/75 of 27 July 1984, 1985/70 of 26 July 1985, 1987/69 of 8 July 1987 and 1989/119 of 28 July 1989,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 43/179 of 20 December 1988, by which the Assembly declared the period 1991-2000 the Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa,

Also bearing in mind the resolution adopted on 6 January 1989 by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe regarding measures to encourage the construction of a major traffic artery in south-western Europe and to study thoroughly the possibility of a permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar,

Taking note of the conclusions of the note by the Secretary-General on the development of the studies relating to the project of a permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar pursuant to resolution 1989/119, 4/

Referring to the conclusions and the recommendations of the Third International Seminar on the Permanent Link through the Strait of Gibraltar, organized at Marrakesh in May 1990, attended by distinguished experts in the areas related to the project and by representatives of many international organizations,

Conscious of the importance of the issues linked to the project and their repercussions on the promotion of scientific and technological research at the international level,

Also conscious of the contribution of the project to the development of transport and to subregional and interregional physical integration,

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4/ E/1991/67.

1. Welcomes the cooperation existing on the project between the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Europe, the Transport Study Centre for the Western Mediterranean and the Governments of Morocco and Spain;

2. Invites the States concerned and the competent scientific institutes and institutions to cooperate with the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe and the Governments of Morocco and Spain to encourage and facilitate the development of land transport infrastructures linked to the works across the Strait of Gibraltar, and cooperation in regard to administrative and customs procedures;

3. Also invites the competent agencies of the United Nations system to participate in the realization of the studies relating to the project of the permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar;

4. Requests the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe to prepare an evaluation report on the studies relating to the project in the period 1982-1993 for submission to the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1993;

5. Calls upon the Secretary-General to allocate as far as possible sufficient resources to the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Europe, within existing priorities, for the realization of the aforementioned evaluation report.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Phase II of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting resolution 47/10 of 10 April 1991 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on phase II of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 5/

Also noting resolution 170 (XV) of 18 May 1989 of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on activities of the Transport and Communications Decade in Western Asia (1985-1994), 6/

Recalling General Assembly resolution 39/227 of 18 December 1984, in which the Assembly proclaimed a Transport and Communications Decade for Asia

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5/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 14 (E/1991/35), chap. IV.

6/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 17 (E/1989/36), chap. III.

and the Pacific during the period 1985-1994, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/78 of 27 July 1984 on the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994,

Recalling also the section of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s concerning the improvement of transport and communications infrastructure, 7/

Recalling further its resolution 1983/69 of 29 July 1983,

Recognizing the critical role of transport and communications in economic development and the importance, therefore, of the improvement and growth of transport and communications infrastructure and services in a manner commensurate with the expected growth of all sectors of the economy generating the demand for transport and communications,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General concerning progress made in the implementation of Council resolution 1984/78, 8/

1. Endorses resolution 47/10 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on phase II of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific, 1985-1994, with a view to:

(a) Raising the transport and communications infrastructural facilities and services of developing member and associate member Governments to a level commensurate with their development objectives and priorities, giving particular attention to the special needs of the least developed, land-locked and island developing countries of the region;

(b) Encouraging the active participation of existing subregional groupings of the region in formulating and implementing the activities for the Decade within their respective subregions in coordination with the regional secretariat;

(c) Associating national institutions concerned with transport and communications in the implementation of the activities for the Decade;

(d) Promoting the active involvement of commercial sectors in the implementation of the activities for the Decade;

2. Recommends that the General Assembly amend the period of the second quinquennium of the Decade to cover the period 1992-1996 to coincide with the period covered by the medium-term plan, namely 1992-1997, so that adequate preparations for a regional action programme may be made, in accordance with resolution 47/10 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;

7/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one, sect. V.C.1.

8/ E/1990/57.

3. Urges all appropriate international organizations, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, to contribute effectively to the formulation and implementation of a regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade;

4. Also requests the Executive Secretaries of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia to promote intergovernmental and inter-agency coordination and cooperation at the regional and subregional levels in the formulation and implementation of a regional action programme for the second quinquennium of the Decade;

5. Invites all Governments, in particular those of the donor countries and others in a position to do so, to contribute and participate effectively in the implementation of a regional action programme for achieving the objectives of the Decade;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1992 and every two years thereafter until the end of the Decade a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

Promotion of interregional cooperation in the area of international trade facilitation

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1989/118 of 28 July 1989, in which it invited the regional commissions to formulate, jointly with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, a draft proposal for interregional cooperation for the facilitation of international trade and in particular the phased application of EDIFACT,

Noting the support expressed by the regional commissions for the project, including relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the commissions, 9/

9/ Resolution 693 (XXV) adopted by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa (see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 13 (E/1990/42), chap. IV); decisions L (44) and J (45) of the Economic Commission for Europe (see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 15 (E/1989/34), chap. IV, and ibid., 1990, Supplement No. 12 (E.1991/41), chap. IV); resolution 47/11 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 1 (E/1991/35), chap. IV); see also Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 14 (E/1990/43), paras. 128-131.

Noting further its resolution 1990/74 of 27 July 1990,

Conscious of the need for coordinated action at the global level to ensure the effective promotion of international trade facilitation,

Aware that elaboration and implementation of the project would require extrabudgetary resources,

1. Requests the regional commissions, jointly with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to elaborate specific projects relating to interregional cooperation on international trade facilitation and present them to bilateral donors and funding organizations;

2. Invites all States to support these initiatives;

3. Requests the United Nations Development Programme and other funding organizations to consider favourably the specific projects submitted by the regional commissions and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

4. Also requests bilateral donors to consider extending appropriate financial and expert assistance in the implementation of the projects.

UNITED
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Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1991/123
24 July 1991

Original: ENGLISH

Second regular session of 1991
Geneva, 3-26 July 1991
Agenda items 8 (a) and (b)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION:

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Report of the First (Economic) Committee

A. Trade and Development

1. The First (Economic) Committee considered the question of trade and development (agenda item 8 (a)) at its 1st to 3rd and 18th meetings, from 8 to 10 and on 24 July 1991. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Trade and Development Board on the second part of its thirty-seventh session (A/46/15 (vol. I)); 1/

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on institutional developments related to the strengthening of international organizations in the area of multilateral trade (E/1991/98).

2. At its 1st to 3rd meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on the questions of trade and development (agenda item 8 (a)) and food and agriculture (agenda item 8 (b)).

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/46/15), vol. I.

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3. At the 1st meeting, on 8 July, the Committee heard introductory statements by the Deputy Secretary-General and the Deputy to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

4. Also at the 1st meeting, statements were made on both questions by the representatives of Sweden (on behalf of the Nordic countries), Austria and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the observer for Egypt. The representative of the Commission of the European Communities also made a statement.

5. At the 2nd meeting, on 9 July, statements were made on both questions by the representatives of New Zealand, Japan, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Peru, Czechoslovakia, China and Pakistan and the observer for Australia.

6. At the 3rd meeting, on 10 July, statements were made on both questions by the representatives of Canada, Argentina, Morocco, Algeria, Indonesia, Mexico and Chile and the observers for Ghana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77), the Sudan, Viet Nam, Uruguay and Senegal. The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations made a statement. The observer for the World Confederation of Labour, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Council, category I, also made a statement.

Trade and development

7. At the 9th meeting, on 17 July, the observer for Ghana, 2/ on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.1) entitled "Trade and development", which read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Taking note of the report of the Trade and Development Board on the second part of its thirty-seventh session (A/46/15 (vol. I)),

"Expressing satisfaction with the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to the final assessment of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 and to the follow-up of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,

"1. Urges Governments to fulfil their commitments to halt and reverse protectionism, taking into account in particular the export interests of developing countries;

2/ In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

"2. Expresses concern about the persistence of protectionist measures which adversely affect the export prospects and trade and development interests of developing countries and calls upon developed countries to reduce and eliminate such measures;

"3. Notes with appreciation the extensive unilateral trade liberalization measures implemented by developing countries and emphasizes the need for support of those measures by the international community;

"4. Emphasizes the importance of the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, which will be held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in February 1992, as an important opportunity to address in an action-oriented manner crucial issues in the field of trade and development with a view to revitalizing growth and development in developing countries and contributing to the strengthening of multilateral cooperation."

8. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ahmed Amaziane (Morocco), introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.15), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.1.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.15 (see para. 11 below).

10. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.15, draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.1 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

11. The First (Economic) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Trade and development

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the report of the Trade and Development Board on the second part of its thirty-seventh session, 3/

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/46/15), vol. I.

Expressing satisfaction with the contribution of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to the final assessment of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 4/ and to the follow-up of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 5/

Noting with appreciation the declaration from the Summit of the seven major industrial nations, held in London in July 1991, which states that no issue has more far-reaching implications for the future prospects of the world economy than the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations,

Reaffirming the importance of a successful, balanced and early conclusion to the Uruguay Round,

1. Urges all Governments to fulfil their commitments undertaken in the Ministerial Declaration of the Uruguay Round 6/ and the Mid-Term Review Agreements, 7/ to halt and reverse protectionism;

2. Expresses concern about the persistence of protectionist measures which adversely affect trade and development, in particular that of developing countries, and, in this respect, emphasizes the importance of an early, comprehensive and balanced outcome of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, with the widest possible participation, resulting in the liberalization and expansion of world trade to the benefit of all countries, especially developing countries, in terms of both exports and substantially increased market access, taking into account the need to strengthen the economies and contribute to the growth and development of developing countries;

3. Notes with appreciation the extensive unilateral trade liberalization measures implemented in particular by an increasing number of developing countries and emphasizes the need for the international community to support those measures through an improved and conducive external economic environment;

4/ General Assembly resolution S-13/2.

5/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

6/ See GATT, Focus Newsletter, No. 41, October 1986.

7/ General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, GATT Activities 1988 (Sales No. GATT/1989-2, annex I).

4. Emphasizes the importance of the eighth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to be held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, in February 1992, as an opportunity to address crucial issues in the field of trade and development in an action-oriented manner, with a view to revitalizing growth and development, in particular of developing countries, and contributing to the strengthening of multilateral cooperation.

B. Food and agriculture

12. The First (Economic) Committee considered the question of food and agriculture (agenda item 8 (b)) at its 1st to 3rd, 9th and 18th meetings, from 8 to 10 and on 12 and 24 July 1991. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on trends in the international market for agricultural and tropical products and developments in the liberalization of international trade in agricultural and tropical products (E/1991/89);

(b) Note verbale dated 16 July 1991 from the Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary of the Economic and Social Council (E/1991/119);

(c) Report of the World Food Council on the work of its seventeenth session (WFC/1991/11). 8/

13. At its 1st to 3rd meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on the question of food and agriculture in conjunction with the general discussion on the question of trade and development (see paras. 2 and 4-6 above).

14. At the 1st meeting, on 8 July, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the Executive Director of the World Food Council.

Food and agriculture

15. At its 9th meeting, on 12 July, the observer for Ghana, 2/ on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.2) entitled "Food and agriculture" which read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Recalling General Assembly resolution 45/207 of 21 December 1990,

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8/ For the final text, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 19 (A/46/19).

"Recalling that in the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 9/ agriculture is one of the sectors for the reactivation of economic growth and development in the 1990s,

"Welcoming the conclusions and recommendations of the World Food Council at its seventeenth ministerial session 10/ and the message from the ministers of the United Nations World Food Council to the multilateral trade negotiators of the Uruguay Round, 11/

"Welcoming also the interregional consultation held in Cairo in April 1991 on meeting the developing countries' food production challenges of the 1990s and beyond, organized by the World Food Council and the United Nations Development Programme,

"Welcoming the Conference on Agriculture and Environment, held at Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands, in April 1991, organized by the Government of the Netherlands and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the Den Bosch Declaration and Agenda for Action for Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development,

"Stressing the importance of the assessments of food needs made by the Global Information and Early Warning System of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

"Stressing also the importance of an adequate scientific and technological basis for increased food production and the existing link between agricultural research, technology transfer/extension and on-farm applications,

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on trends in the international market for agricultural and tropical products and developments in the liberalization of international trade in agricultural and tropical products, 12/

"1. Recognizes that if the challenges of increasing food production and productivity and food security are to be met in developing countries, new initiatives, including increased financial and technical assistance, to promote sustainable agricultural development in all countries, will be required;

9/ General Assembly resolution 45/199, annex.

10/ WFC/1991/11, part one.

11/ Ibid.

12/ E/1991/89.

"2. Stresses the importance of sustainable agricultural development and a fair and free system of agricultural trade to food security, taking into account the particular interests of net food-importing countries, and the necessity of ensuring that environmental protection concerns do not generate barriers to trade, thereby creating a new form of hidden protectionism;

"3. Urges the continuation and strengthening of cooperative arrangements to facilitate the enhancement of early warning of food shortages and assessment of food needs within the framework of the Global Information and Early Warning System of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

"4. Urges an early, balanced and fully comprehensive conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, including the negotiations on agricultural and tropical products, in line with the Ministerial Declaration on the Uruguay Round 13/ and the Mid-Term Review Agreements; 14/

"5. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the World Food Council, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, for consideration under a sub-item of the agenda entitled "Food and agricultural development", an updated comprehensive report on trends in the international market for agricultural and tropical products and developments in the liberalization of international trade in agricultural and tropical products, taking into account the share of developing countries in such trade and the possible adverse short-term effects on net food-importing developing countries, and on the follow-up to the section on agriculture of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade."

16. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ahmed Amaziane (Morocco), introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.17), which had been submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.2.

17. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.17 (see para. 19 below).

18. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.17, draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.2 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

13/ See GATT, Focus Newsletter, No. 41, October 1986.

14/ General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, GATT Activities, 1988 (Sales No. GATT/1989-2), annex I.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

19. The First (Economic) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Food and agriculture

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 45/207 of 21 December 1990,

Recalling that in the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, 15/ agriculture is one of the sectors for the reactivation of economic growth and development in the 1990s, and the eradication of hunger and poverty is one of the priority aspects of development,

Taking note with appreciation of the conclusions and recommendations of the World Food Council at its seventeenth ministerial session, 16/ and the message from the Ministers of the United Nations World Food Council to the multilateral trade negotiators of the Uruguay Round,

Also taking note with appreciation of the declaration from the Summit of the seven major industrial nations, held in London in July 1991, on the importance of a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations,

Stressing the importance of an adequate scientific and technological basis for increased food production and the existing link between agricultural research, technology transfer/extension and on-farm applications,

Welcoming the World Food Council/United Nations Development Programme Interregional Consultation on Meeting the Developing Countries' Food Production Challenges of the 1990s and Beyond, held at Cairo from 22 to 24 April 1991, 17/

15/ General Assembly resolution 45/199, annex.

16/ WFC/1991/11, part one.

17/ See WFC/1991/6/Add.1.

Welcoming the Conference on Agriculture and Environment, held at Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands, from 5 to 19 April 1991, organized by the Government of the Netherlands and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the Den Bosch Declaration and Agenda for Action for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development, 18/

Stressing the importance of the assessments of food needs made by the Global Information and Early Warning System of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on trends in the international market for agricultural and tropical products and developments in the liberalization of international trade in agricultural and tropical products, 19/

1. Recognizes that if the challenges of increasing food production and productivity and food security are to be met in developing countries, sustainable agricultural development in all countries should be promoted by new initiatives and by sound national policies;

2. Stresses the importance to food security of sustainable agricultural development and a fair and more free system of agricultural trade, taking into account the particular interests of net food-importing countries, and of the necessity of ensuring that environmental protection concerns do not generate unjustified barriers to trade, thereby creating a new form of hidden protectionism;

3. Urges the continuation and strengthening of cooperative arrangements to facilitate the enhancement of early warning of food shortages and assessment of food needs within the framework of the Global Information and Early Warning System of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

4. Urges an early, balanced and fully comprehensive conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, including the negotiations on agricultural and tropical products, in line with the Ministerial Declaration on the Uruguay Round 20/ and the Mid-Term Agreements; 21/

18/ CL 99/23, appendix A.

19/ E/1991/89.

20/ See GATT, Focus Newsletter. No. 41, October 1986.

21/ General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, GATT Activities, 1988 (Sales No. GATT/1989-2), annex I.

5. Endorses the message from the ministers of the World Food Council to the multilateral trade negotiators of the Uruguay Round 22/ and the call from representatives of the seven major industrial nations at the Summit held in London in July 1991 for all contracting parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to aim to complete the Uruguay Round before the end of 1991;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the World Food Council, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, for consideration under the sub-item of the agenda entitled "Food and agricultural development", an updated comprehensive report on trends in the international market for agricultural and tropical products and developments in the liberalization of international trade in agricultural and tropical products, taking into account the share of developing countries in such trade and the possible adverse short-term effects on net food-importing developing countries, and on the follow-up to the section on agriculture of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade.

22/ WFC/1991/11, part one.

UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1991/124
24 July 1991

Original: ENGLISH

Second regular session of 1991
Geneva, 3-26 July 1991
Agenda items 8 (c) and (d)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION:

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

Report of the First (Economic) Committee

A. Science and technology for development

1. The First (Economic) Committee considered the question of science and technology for development (agenda item 8 (c)) at its 13th, 14th and 16th meetings, on 19 and 23 July 1991. It had before it the report of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development on its eleventh session (A/46/37). 1/

2. At its 13th and 14th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on questions of science and technology for development (agenda item 8 (c)) and transnational corporations (agenda item 8 (d)).

3. At the 13th meeting, on 19 July, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the Deputy Director of the Centre for Science and Technology for Development.

GE.91-71429/6743a

4. Also at the 13th meeting, statements were made on both questions by the representatives of the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community), Zambia, Togo, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Yugoslavia, Malaysia, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Czechoslovakia and Algeria and the observer for Norway (on behalf of the Nordic countries).

5. At the 14th meeting, on 19 July, statements were made on both questions by the representatives of Japan, Romania, Kenya and Chile and the observer for Venezuela. The representative of the World Bank also made a statement.

Report of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development

6. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it take note of the report of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development on its eleventh session (A/46/37) (see para. 7 below).

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

7. The First (Economic) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development on its eleventh session. 1/

B. Transnational corporations

8. The First (Economic) Committee considered the question of transnational corporations (agenda item 8 (d)) at its 13th, 14th and 18th meetings, on 19 and 24 July 1991. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its seventeenth session (E/1991/31); 2/

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on efforts by the United Nations to address the issue of corrupt practices (E/1991/31/Add.1).

9. At its 13th and 14th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on the questions of transnational corporations and science and technology for development (see paras. 2, 4 and 5 above).

10. At the 13th meeting, on 19 July, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations

11. Chapter I, sections A and B, of the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its seventeenth session contained three draft resolutions and one draft decision recommended for adoption by the Council.

12. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ahmed Amaziane (Morocco), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the recommendations contained in the report and amended draft resolution I by deleting the word "proposed" before the words "repeal of the major apartheid laws" in operative paragraph 1.

Activities of transnational corporations in South Africa

13. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution I entitled "Activities of transnational corporations in South Africa", as amended, by 27 votes to 11 with 7 abstentions (see para. 19 below, draft resolution I).

14. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Turkey, Finland, Zambia, the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community) and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Recommendations of the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its seventeenth session and its contribution to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

15. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution II entitled "Recommendations of the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its seventeenth session and its contribution to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (see para. 19 below, draft resolution II).

Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting

16. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution III entitled "Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting" (see para. 19 below, draft resolution III).

Provisional agendas and documentation for the eighteenth and nineteenth session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations

17. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Committee adopted the draft decision entitled "Provisional agendas and documentation for the eighteenth and nineteenth session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations" (see para. 20 below, draft decision I).

Other proposals

Reports considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of transnational corporations

18. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee took note of the report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its seventeenth session (E/1991/31) 2/ and the report of the Secretary-General on efforts by the United Nations to address the issue of corrupt practices (E/1991/31/Add.1) (see para. 20 below, draft decision II).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

19. The First (Economic) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Activities of transnational corporations in South Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1990/70 of 27 July 1990,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on transnational corporations in South Africa, 3/

Reaffirming the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixteenth special session, 4/ which contains guidelines on how to end apartheid through genuine negotiations,

Noting the evolving situation in South Africa,

Mindful of its obligations towards the complete eradication of apartheid, reaffirmed in General Assembly resolutions 44/244 of 17 September 1990 and 45/176 A of 19 December 1990,

1. Notes the evolving situation in South Africa, including the repeal of the major apartheid laws, and urges the South African regime to incorporate compensatory mechanisms in land reforms in order to make the eradication of apartheid lasting and equitable;

2. Reaffirms that Governments, entrepreneurs and enterprises have comprehensive responsibilities to deny sustenance to the apartheid system;

3. Reiterates its call upon all transnational corporations to stop immediately any operations in South Africa and all forms of trade and economic links with the racist minority regime;

4. Further reiterates its call upon all multilateral financial and development institutions to cease immediately any kind of support or other form of collaboration with the racist regime in South Africa;

5. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) In close cooperation with relevant organs of the United Nations, to continue the useful work of collecting and disseminating information on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa, including the list of transnational corporations still conducting operations there;

(b) To continue preparing studies on the level and form of operation by transnational corporations in South Africa, including their non-equity business arrangements and their involvement in particular sectors of the South African economy, and an updated study on the responsibilities of home countries with respect to the transnational corporations operating in South Africa in violation of relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations;

(c) To continue examining possible contributions of transnational corporations to the construction of a non-racial democratic South Africa in the economic and social fields, taking into account the special need to train black South African entrepreneurs;

(d) To report to the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its eighteenth session, the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly and the Security Council on the implementation of the present resolution.

[FOR THE TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTION II AND III, SEE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS ON ITS SEVENTEENTH SESSION (E/1991/31, CHAP. I, SECT. A)].

20. The First (Economic) Committee also recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

[FOR THE TEXT OF DRAFT DECISION I, SEE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS ON ITS SEVENTEENTH SESSION (E/1991/31, CHAP. I, SECT. B)]

DRAFT DECISION II

Reports considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of transnational corporations

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Commission on Transnational Corporations on its seventeenth session; 5/

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on efforts by the United Nations to address the issue of corrupt practices. 6/

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 37 (A/46/37).

2/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 10 (E/1991/31).

3/ E/C.10/1991/10.

4/ General Assembly resolution S-16/1, annex.

5/ E/1991/31.

6/ E/1991/31/Add.1.

UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1991/125
25 July 1991

Original: ENGLISH

Second regular session of 1991
Geneva, 3-26 July 1991
Agenda item 8 (e), (f) and (g)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION:

NATURAL RESOURCES

POPULATION

STATISTICS

Report of the First (Economic) Committee

A. Natural resources

1. The First (Economic) Committee considered the question of natural resources (agenda item 8 (e)) at its 5th, 6th and 16th meetings, on 15 and 23 July 1991. It had before it the report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its twelfth session (E/1991/29). 1/

2. At its 5th and 6th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on the questions of natural resources (agenda item 8 (e)) population (agenda item 8 (f)) and statistics (agenda item 8 (g)).

3. At the 5th meeting, on 15 July, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the Chief of the Energy and Resources Branch of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs.

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 9 (E/1991/29).

4. At the 6th meeting, on 15 July, statements were made by the representatives of Austria, the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community), Algeria, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Japan, China, Bahrain, Argentina, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Pakistan, Czechoslovakia and Morocco and the observers for Denmark (on behalf of the Nordic countries) and Egypt. Statements were also made by the representatives of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Meteorological Organization.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Natural Resources

5. Chapter I, sections A and B, of the report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its twelfth session contained eight draft resolutions and three draft decisions recommended for adoption by the Council.

6. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ahmed Amaziane (Morocco), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the recommendations contained in the report.

International Conference on Water and the Environment

7. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution I entitled "International Conference on Water and the Environment" (see para. 18 below, draft resolution I).

Water resources development and progress in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan

8. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution II entitled "Water resources development and progress in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan" (see para. 18 below, draft resolution II).

Development and efficient use of energy resources

9. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution III entitled "Development and efficient use of energy resources" (see para. 18 below, draft resolution III).

Trends and salient issues in the development of mineral resources

10. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution IV entitled "Trends and salient issues in the development of mineral resources" (see para. 18 below, draft resolution IV).

Permanent sovereignty over natural resources

11. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution V entitled "Permanent sovereignty over natural resources" (see para. 18 below, draft resolution V).

New techniques, including remote sensing, for identifying, exploring for and assessing natural resources

12. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution VI entitled "New techniques, including remote sensing, for identifying, exploring for and assessing natural resources" (see para. 18 below, draft resolution VI).

Coordination of programmes within the United Nations system in the field of natural resources

13. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution VII entitled "Coordination of programmes within the United Nations system in the field of natural resources" (see para. 18 below, draft resolution VII).

United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration

14. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted draft resolution VIII entitled "United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration" (see para. 18 below, draft resolution VIII).

International Conference on Water and the Environment

15. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted draft decision I entitled "International Conference on Water and the Environment" (see para. 19 below, draft decision I).

Disaster prevention and mitigation in developing and utilizing natural resources

16. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted draft decision II entitled "Disaster prevention and mitigation in developing and utilizing natural resources" (see para. 19 below, draft decision II).

Report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its twelfth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirteenth session of the Commission

17. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted draft decision III entitled "Report of the Committee on Natural Resources on its twelfth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirteenth session of the Committee" (see para. 19 below, draft decision III).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

18. The First (Economic) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

[FOR THE TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS I TO VIII, SEE
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES ON
ITS TWELFTH SESSION
(E/1991/29, CHAP. I, SECT. A)]

19. The First (Economic) Committee also recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

[FOR THE TEXT OF DRAFT DECISIONS I TO III, SEE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES ON ITS TWELFTH SESSION (E/1991/29, CHAP. I, SECT. B)]

B. Population

20. The First (Economic) Committee considered the question of population (agenda item 8 (f)) at its 5th, 6th and 16th meetings, on 15 and 23 July 1991. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on preparations for a 1994 international meeting on population (E/1991/5);

(b) Report of the Population Commission on its twenty-sixth session (E/1991/27); 2/

(c) Report of the Population Commission Acting as the Preparatory Committee for the 1994 International Meeting on Population (E/1991/47) and the statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution entitled "International Conference on Population and Development" submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council (E/1991/47/Add.1).

21. At its 5th and 6th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on the questions of population, natural resources and statistics (see paras. 2 and 4 above).

22. At the 6th meeting, on 15 July, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, the Director of the Population Division of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the Director of the Technical and Evaluation Division of the United Nations Population Fund.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Population Commission

23. Chapter I, sections A and B, of the report of the Population Commission on its twenty-sixth session contained one draft resolution and one draft decision recommended for adoption by the Council.

24. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ahmed Amaziane (Morocco), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the recommendations contained in the report.

2/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 7 (E/1991/27).

Work programme in the field of population

25. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted the draft resolution entitled "Work programme in the field of population" (see para. 32 below, draft resolution I).

Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-seventh session of the Population Commission

26. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Committee adopted the draft decision entitled "Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-seventh session of the Population Commission" (see para. 33 below, draft decision I).

Recommendations contained in the report of the Population Commission Acting as the Preparatory Committee for the 1994 International Meeting on Population

27. Chapter I of the report of the Population Commission acting as the Preparatory Committee for the 1994 International Meeting on Population contained one draft resolution for adoption by the Council.

28. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Amaziane (Morocco), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution.

29. The Committee's attention was drawn to the statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

International Conference on Population and Development

30. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution entitled "International Conference on Environment and Development" (see para. 32 below, draft resolution II).

Other proposals

Report of the Population Commission Acting as the Preparatory Committee for the 1994 International Meeting on Population

31. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee took note of the report of the Population Commission Acting as the Preparatory Committee for the 1994 International Meeting on Population (E/1991/47), together with the statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution entitled "International Conference on Population and Development" submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council (E/1991/47/Add.1) (see para. 33 below, draft decision II).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

32. The First (Economic) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

[FOR THE TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTION I, SEE REPORT OF THE POPULATION COMMISSION ON ITS TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION (E/1991/27, CHAP.I, SECT. A)]

[FOR THE TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTION II, SEE REPORT OF THE POPULATION COMMISSION ACTING AS THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE 1994 INTERNATONAL MEETING ON POPULATION (E/1991/47, CHAP. I]

33. The First (Economic) Committee also recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

[FOR THE TEXT OF DRAFT DECISION I, SEE REPORT OF THE POPULATION COMMISSION ON ITS TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION (E/1991/27, CHAP.I, SECT. B)]

DRAFT DECISION II

Report of the Population Commission Acting as the Preparatory Committee for the 1994 International Meeting on Population

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Population Commission Acting as the Preparatory Committee for the 1994 International Meeting on Population, 3/ together with the statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution entitled "International Conference on Population and Development" submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council. 4/

C. Statistics

34. The First (Economic) Committee considered the question of statistics (agenda item 8 (g)) at its 5th, 6th, 14th and 18th meetings, on 15, 19 and 24 July 1991. It had before it the report of the Statistical Commission on its twenty-sixth session (E/1991/25); 5/

3/ E/1991/47.

4/ E/1991/47/Add.1.

5/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 5 (E/1991/25).

35. At its 5th and 6th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on the questions of statistics and natural resources and population (see paras. 2 and 4 above).

36. At the 5th meeting, on 15 July, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the Director of the Statistical Office of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs.

37. Also at the 5th meeting, the representative of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development made a statement.

Patterns of consumption and qualitative indicators of development

38. At the 14th meeting, on 19 July, the representative of Morocco, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.11) entitled "Patterns of consumption and qualitative indicators of development" and orally revised it by:

(a) Adding the words "on the basis of extrabudgetary support" at the end of operative paragraph 3;

(b) Inserting the words "and relevant multilateral agencies" after the words "Invites donor countries" in operative paragraph 4;

(c) Reversing the order of operative paragraphs 3 and 4.

39. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ahmed Amaziane (Morocco), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and revised it as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 2, the words "on the basis of the outcome of the first high-level meeting and needed further research", was inserted after the words "indicators of development";

(b) In operative paragraph 3, the word "interested" was inserted after the word "Invites";

(c) In operative paragraph 6, the word "Requests" was replaced by the word "Invites" and the words ", as appropriate," were inserted after the words "to use";

(d) In operative paragraph 7, the words "to report to the Economic and Social Council, at its regular session of 1992, on the implementation of the present resolution" were replaced by the words "to present an oral report to the Economic and Social Council, at its regular session of 1992 on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution".

40. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.11, as orally revised (see para. 43 below).

Recommendation contained in the report of the Statistical Commission

41. Chapter I, section A, of the report of the Statistical Commission on its twenty-sixth session, contained one draft decision for adoption by the Council.

Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-seventh session of the Statistical Commission

42. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Committee adopted the draft decision entitled "Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-seventh session of the Statistical Commission" (see para. 44 below).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

43. The First (Economic) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Patterns of consumption and qualitative indicators of development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 40/179 of 17 December 1985 and 44/234 of 22 December 1989,

Recalling also its resolutions 1987/6 of 26 May 1987 and 1989/4 of 22 May 1989,

Recalling further the reports of the Statistical Commission on the work of its twenty-fourth, twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth sessions, 6/ in particular the sections on development indicators,

Recalling the work of the relevant United Nations organizations, in particular the Statistical Office of the Secretariat and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, on qualitative indicators of development,

Reiterating that the subject of patterns of consumption and related socio-economic indicators is of considerable importance and high priority for developing countries,

Encouraging countries, in this regard, to improve their basic statistical programmes and capabilities and to make efforts to develop the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of data relating to patterns of consumption, and inviting the international community to strengthen the national capabilities of the developing countries with respect to the collection of integrated socio-economic data and their processing, in particular by microcomputer, with a view to having better and more up-to-date data,

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6/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1987, Supplement No. 6 (E/1987/19); ibid., 1989, Supplement No. 3 (E/1989/21); and ibid., 1991, Supplement No. 5 (E/1991/25).

Convinced of the necessity to preserve, in the long term, balance between resources, population, environment and development, taking into account the advances made in science and technology and the need to make progress in the transfer of technological innovations to developing countries,

Stressing that the development of indicators tailored to the fundamental economic and socio-cultural needs of the population in the fields of food, clothing, housing, education, health care and necessary social services would help to orient national development and support international cooperation by helping Governments to formulate and follow policies better geared to human development,

Stressing also that the identification of indicative patterns of consumption and the development of qualitative indicators of development would be extremely useful in the evaluation of the progress achieved in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade and would make a substantial contribution to the work of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in 1992,

Stressing further the need for harmonization of the work of the United Nations system on qualitative indicators of development,

1. Notes that the High-level Meeting of Experts on Social Development Indicators, envisaged by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/234, was held at Rabat from 8 to 11 April 1991 under the auspices of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to organize, in close consultation with the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, the Statistical Office of the Secretariat, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the International Labour Organisation and the World Health Organization, in New York or Geneva, another high-level meeting of experts with a view to further advancing the work on qualitative indicators of development on the basis of the outcome of the first high-level meeting and needed further research, bearing in mind the need to ensure wider participation and collaboration of different scientific and technical disciplines;

3. Invites interested donor countries and relevant multilateral agencies to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development for the purpose of holding in good time the meeting referred to in paragraph 2 above, and the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the International Labour Organisation and the World Health Organization to assist in supporting such a meeting;

4. Requests the regional commissions to organize workshops aimed at disseminating the concept of qualitative indicators of development on the basis of extrabudgetary support;

5. Requests the Statistical Commission to keep the issue of patterns of consumption and qualitative indicators of development under consideration, with a view to assisting the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in their appraisal of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade and, in particular, the mid-term review;

6. Invites, in the interest of harmonization, the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund, as well as the international financial and development institutions, to use, as appropriate, qualitative indicators of development in their annual reports, which are based on the areas identified in General Assembly resolution 40/179;

7. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development and other relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to present an oral report to the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1992 on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution.

44. The First (Economic) Committee also recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

[FOR THE TEXT OF THE DRAFT DECISION, SEE REPORT OF THE STATISTICAL COMMISSION ON ITS TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION (E/1991/25, CHAP. I, SECT. A)]

UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1991/126
25 July 1991

Original: ENGLISH

Second regular session of 1991
Geneva, 3-26 July 1991
Agenda item 8 (h), (i) and (j)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION:

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

ENVIRONMENT

DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT

Report of the First (Economic) Committee

A. Human settlements

1. The First (Economic) Committee considered the question of human settlements (agenda item 8 (h)) at its 3rd, 7th to 9th, 16th and 18th meetings, on 10, 16, 17, 23 and 24 July 1991. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its thirteenth session (A/46/8); 1/

(b) Note by the Executive Director on the second report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 (A/46/8/Add.1);

1/ For the final text, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/46/8).

GE.91-71551/3442B

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory (A/46/262-E/1991/95).

2. At its 7th to 9th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on the question of human settlements (agenda item 8 (h)) and the questions of environment (agenda item 8 (i)) and desertification and drought (agenda item 8 (j)).

3. At the 3rd meeting, on 10 July, it heard an introductory statement by the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat).

4. At the 7th meeting, on 16 July, statements were made by the representatives of the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community), the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Austria, China and Spain and the observers for Norway (on behalf of the Nordic countries), Sri Lanka and Senegal. The observer for Palestine made a statement. The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations also made a statement. The representative of the United Nations Development Programme made a statement.

5. At the 8th meeting, on 16 July, statements were made by the representatives of the Bahamas, Morocco, Pakistan, Japan, Yugoslavia, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Canada, the Sudan, Turkey, Mexico, France, Argentina, Algeria, Indonesia, Nicaragua, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Islamic Republic of Iran and the observers for Venezuela, Egypt, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic and Uganda.

6. At the 9th meeting, on 17 July, statements were made by the representatives of Kenya, Czechoslovakia and Brazil.

Report of the Commission on Human Settlements

7. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the representative of the Netherlands on behalf of Belgium, 2/ Chile, Denmark, 2/ Ecuador, Egypt, 2/ France, Germany, Greece, 2/ Ireland, 2/ Italy, Lebanon, 2/ Morocco, the Netherlands, Senegal, 2/ Spain, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, introduced a draft decision (E/1991/C.1/L.14) entitled "Report of the Commission on Human Settlements". Subsequently, Portugal 2/ and Sri Lanka 2/ joined in sponsoring the draft decision.

8. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ahmed Amaziane (Morocco), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft decision.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision E/1991/C.1/L.14 (see para. 11 below, draft decision I).

2/ In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of human settlements

10. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it take note of the documents considered in connection with the question of human settlements (see para. 11 below, draft decision II).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

11. The First (Economic) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

DRAFT DECISION I

Report of the Commission on Human Settlements

The Economic and Social Council, having considered the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its thirteenth session, 3/ decides:

(a) To endorse the report, as adopted by the Commission on the clear understanding that the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) referred to in Commission resolution 13/3 4/ remains of a purely informal character;

(b) To transmit the report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session for consideration and action, as appropriate.

DRAFT DECISION II

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of human settlements

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the following documents:

(a) Note by the Executive Director on the second report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000; 5/

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory. 6/

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/46/8).

4/ Ibid., annex I, sect. A.2.

5/ A/46/8/Add.1.

6/ A/46/262-E/1991/95.

B. Environment

12. The First (Economic) Committee considered the question of environment (agenda item 8 (i)) at its 7th to 9th and 18th meetings, on 16, 17 and 24 July 1991. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 44/227 (A/46/138-E/1991/52);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the possible adverse effects of sea-level rise on islands and coastal areas, particularly low-lying coastal areas (A/46/156-E/1991/54);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on traffic in and disposal, control and transboundary movements of toxic and dangerous products and wastes (A/46/214-E/1991/77);

(d) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its sixteenth session (E/1991/L.26). 7/

13. At its 7th to 9th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on the question of environment and the questions of human settlements and desertification and drought (see paras. 2, and 4-6 above).

14. At the 6th meeting, on 16 July, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme.

Reports considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of the environment

15. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, on the proposal of the Chairman the Committee decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it take note of reports considered in connection with the question of the environment (see para. 16 below).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

16. The First (Economic) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

7/ For the final text, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No.25 (A/46/25).

Reports considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of the environment

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 44/227; 8/

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the possible adverse effects of sea-level rise on islands and coastal areas, particularly low-lying coastal areas; 9/

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on traffic in and disposal, control and transboundary movements of toxic and dangerous products and wastes; 10/

(d) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its sixteenth session. 11/

C. Desertification and drought

17. The First (Economic) Committee considered the question of desertification and drought (agenda item 8 (j)) at its 7th to 9th, 11th, 14th, 16th and 18th meetings, on 16 to 19, 23 and 24 July 1991. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification (A/46/157-E/1991/55);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of countries stricken by desertification and drought in Africa (A/46/268-E/1991/107)

(c) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, including the implementation of the Plan in the Sudano-Sahelian region (E/1991/L.29). 12/

18. At its 7th to 9th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on the question of desertification and drought and the questions of human settlements and environment (see paras. 2 and 4-6 above).

8/ A/46/138-E/1991/52.

9/ A/46/156-E/1991/54.

10/ A/46/214-E/1991/77.

11/ E/1991/L.26.

12/ To be issued as an official document of the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session and of the Economic and Social Council.

19. At the 7th meeting, on 16 July, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the Director of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office.

Second phase of the Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification of the International Fund for Agricultural Development

20. At the 9th meeting, on 17 July, the observer for Senegal, 2/ on behalf of the African States, introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.4) entitled "Second phase of the Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification" of the International Fund for Agricultural Development

21. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ahmed Amaziane (Morocco), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and replaced operative paragraph 4, which read:

> "Appeals to the international donor community to spare no effort to increase resources for the second phase of the Special Programme so that the level of resource commitment may be comparable to that in the first phase",

by the following:

> "Invites donors to endorse resolution 60 (XIII) of the Governing Council of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, concerning the possibility of additional voluntary contributions to the second phase of the Special Programme without prejudicing the deliberations on the integration of the Special Programme into the general activities of the International Fund for Agricultural Development."

22. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.4, as orally revised (see para. 32 below, draft resolution I).

Countries stricken by desertification and drought in Africa

23. At the 12th meeting, on 18 July, the observer for Senegal, 2/ on behalf of the African States, introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.9) entitled "Countries stricken by desertification and drought in Africa". Subsequently, Australia, 2/ France, Pakistan and Viet Nam 2/ joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, which read as follows:

> "The Economic and Social Council,
>
> "Recalling General Assembly resolutions 39/208 of 17 December 1984, 40/175 of 17 December 1985 and 42/188 of 11 December 1987, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/44 of 21 July 1986,

"Recalling also General Assembly resolution 40/209 of 17 December 1985, whereby the Assembly rationalized the consideration of drought and desertification issues,

"Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/172A of 19 December 1989 on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

"Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989, included protection and management of land resources by, inter alia, combating deforestation, desertification and drought among the issues of major concern, and paid renewed attention to drought and desertification in its enunciation of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

"Deeply concerned at the dramatic effects of accelerating desertification, which have caused a substantial decline in agricultural output and served in particular to aggravate the current economic crisis in Africa,

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on countries stricken by desertification and drought in Africa, 13/

"Taking note of the work of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on this question and Governing Council decision 15/23 of 25 May 1989, 14/

"Taking note of the important contribution made by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in helping the countries of the region to prepare for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and encouraging the Office to continue and intensify its efforts in that area,

"Congratulating the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office on its organization of consultative meetings of the Sudano-Sahelian countries, in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, in Ouagadougou from 13 to 15 February 1991 and in Cairo from 8 to 10 July 1991, and its painstaking preparations for those meetings in the countries concerned and with such partners as the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel and the Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development,

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13/ A/46/286-E/1991/107.

14/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/44/25), annex I.

"Welcoming the results and resolutions of the Ministerial Conference for a joint policy to combat desertification in the countries of the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel and the Economic Community of West African States, in the Maghreb countries, in Egypt and in the Sudan, held at Dakar in July and November 1985, and in Algiers in October 1988,

"Welcoming also the renewed efforts of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office aimed at increasing support to the countries and organizations concerned and at cooperating with them, and in particular with the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel and the Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development,

"Aware of the efforts that are already being made in the African region, inter alia, to combat drought and desertification, and the commitments made in Cairo and Kampala,

"Bearing in mind the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, 15/

"Acknowledging that, in view of the scale and gravity of desertification and drought, programmes to combat those scourges require financial and human resources beyond the means of the countries concerned,

"1. Reaffirms the need for sustained implementation of General Assembly resolution 44/172 A;

"2. Recognizes the sustained and praiseworthy efforts made by the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel to combat desertification and drought, and welcomes its fruitful cooperation with Governments and United Nations organs and bodies;

"3. Appeals urgently to the international community, particularly donor countries, to continue to support the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel, the Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development and the Ministerial Conference for a joint policy to combat desertification;

"4. Welcomes with satisfaction the progress made by the International Fund for Agricultural Development through its Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification;

"5. Stresses the fundamental importance of South-South cooperation in executing programmes to combat desertification and drought and of the necessary support of the international community for such cooperation;

15/ DP/1991/45.

"6. Recalls with satisfaction the interest expressed at the Summit of leading industrialized countries held in Paris from 14 to 16 July 1989 in matters relating to the campaign against desertification and in particular the planned Sahara and Sahel observatory;

"7. Notes with appreciation the solidarity with which the international community has responded to the assistance needs resulting from the emergency in Africa, particularly with regard to food aid, emergency medical assistance and the fight against grasshoppers and locusts;

"8. Recommends that, within the framework of bilateral and multilateral development assistance programmes, the fight against desertification and drought should be given priority attention in keeping with the scope of those problems;

"9. Invites the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office to step up its efforts to mobilize additional resources in support of efforts by the countries within its remit and by the relevant regional organizations, notably the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel and the Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development;

"10. Urges the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office to continue to help the Sudano-Sahelian countries to prepare for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and the follow-up activities resulting therefrom;

"11. Requests the Secretary-General to place greater emphasis, in the World Economic Survey, on the situation and prospects of countries stricken by desertification and drought;

"12. Further requests the Secretary-General, given the urgency of the situation of the countries stricken by desertification and drought, to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the countries concerned, and to put forward specific, coordinated proposals for action with due regard for the results of the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development of relevance to this issue."

24. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Amaziane (Morocco), introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.16), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.9.

25. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.16 (see para. 32 below, draft resolution II).

26. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.16, draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.9 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

Combating aridity, soil erosion, salinity, water-logging, desertification and the effects of drought in South Asia

27. At the 14th meeting, on 19 July, the representative of Pakistan on behalf of Argentina, Australia, 2/ Bahrain, Bangladesh, 2/ Bhutan, 2/ Brunei-Darussalam, 2/ Canada, Egypt, 2/ Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Lebanon, 2/ Malaysia, Morocco, Myanmar, 2/ Nepal, 2/ New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, 2/ Senegal, 2/ Sri Lanka, 2/ the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, 2/ Viet Nam, 2/ Yemen, 2/ and Yugoslavia, introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.10) entitled "Combating aridity, soil erosion, salinity, water-logging, desertification and the effects of drought in South Asia", which read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/172 of 19 December 1989, in which the imperative need to address desertification in the framework of the interdependence of nations was stressed,

"Aware that South Asia, one of the most populous regions in the world, contains significant areas subject to aridity, soil erosion, salinity, water-logging, desertification and the effects of drought, which affect the lives of millions of peoples and the entire environment in the region,

"Noting that no comprehensive assessment has been made of this problem in the region,

"1. Requests the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, and other international and national development assistance organizations, to undertake a study which would assess the extent of this problem and its effects on the peoples of the region, and would also provide a framework for national and international cooperative efforts to tackle this problem in its physical and human dimension;

"2. Calls upon the international community to provide expertise and assistance to further national efforts, in the concerned South Asian countries, for concrete action to ameliorate the situation over a period of time."

28. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Amaziane (Morocco), introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.20), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.10.

29. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.20 (see para. 32 below, draft resolution III).

30. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.20, draft resolution E/1991/C.1/L.10 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

Reports considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of desertification and drought

31. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, on the proposal by the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it take note of the reports considered in connection with the question of desertification and drought (see para. 33 below).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

32. The First (Economic) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Second phase of the Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification of the International Fund for Agricultural Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1989/88 dated 6 July 1989, in which it stressed the urgent need for substantial progress in stimulating food production in developing countries and the importance of increasing domestic food production for stimulating national economic growth and social progress in those countries and helping to resolve the problem of hunger and malnutrition in an effective way,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 45/207 dated 21 December 1990, in which the Assembly, among other things, urged the members of the international community to take further determined action in support of the efforts of developing countries by increasing even more the flow of resources, including concessional flows designated for agricultural development, and by increasing food aid commitments in support of the strengthened efforts of developing countries to increase mobilization and allocation of domestic resources to address food and agricultural problems, in addition to the flow of resources from developed countries, bearing in mind the need to channel this assistance through appropriate existing organizations and programmes,

Welcoming the timely appeal made by the Secretary-General on 10 May 1991, reminding the world of the situation facing Africa and of the 30 million people in the continent threatened by famine,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution S-13/2 dated 1 June 1986, and in particular the provision of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 in which the African countries and the international community undertook, among other things, to devote priority attention and increased resources to reviving and developing food production and agriculture in Africa,

Recalling also resolutions CM/Res.1060(XLIV), CM/Res.1119(XLVI) and CM/Res.1322(LIII) adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of

African Unity at its forty-fourth, forty-sixth and fifty-third sessions and endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, together with resolution 721(XXVI) adopted by the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa on the second phase of the Special Programme of the International Fund for Agricultural Development for Sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification, appealing to the international donor community to increase the resources for the second phase of the Special Programme with a view to achieving the target of 300 million dollars necessary for a three-year period beginning in 1991,

Considering the mandate given to the President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development by the Governing Council at its thirteenth session held, in January 1990, to consult donors on the mobilization of additional resources so that the Special Programme could continue for a second phase and the authorization given to the President and to the Executive Board of the Fund by the Governing Council at its fourteenth session to initiate activities for the implementation of the second phase of the Special Programme,

Also bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 45/207 on food and agricultural problems, in which the Assembly, among other things, invited donors to endorse resolution 60/XIII of 25 January 1990 of the Governing Council of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, concerning the possibility of additional voluntary contributions to the Special Resources for Sub-Saharan Africa for a further three years, starting in January 1991, without prejudicing deliberations on the mobilization of core funding for the Fund,

Noting with satisfaction the positive contribution made by the Fund to the economic recovery programmes of its developing member States and the assistance provided by it to the African region in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990, in particular through the first phase of its programme, in which the target of 300 million dollars was reached and the funds thus mobilized were fully committed,

Concerned at the constant deterioration in socio-economic conditions in Africa,

Greatly encouraged by formal statements made by a number of donors pledging contributions to the second phase of the Special Programme,

1. Welcomes the action taken by the International Fund for Agricultural Development under its Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification, which gives priority to improving food security by measures to preserve the environment and restore existing productive capacity and to ensuring that projects once completed will yield lasting benefits;

2. Stresses the urgent need for a steady, predictable and sustained flow of resources to Africa in order to promote rehabilitation and development, especially in agriculture, and in order to meet urgent needs in connection with drought control and economic reform;

3. Expresses its appreciation to countries which have already made firm pledges or have indicated their intention of making contributions to the second phase of the Special Programme over the period 1991-1993;

4. Invites donors to endorse resolution 60(XIII) of the Governing Council of the the International Fund for Agricultural Development, concerning the possibility of additional voluntary contributions to the second phase of the Special Programme without prejudicing the deliberations on the integration of the Special Programme into the general activities of the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Countries stricken by desertification and drought in Africa

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 39/208 of 17 December 1984, 40/175 of 17 December 1985 and 42/188 of 11 December 1987 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/44 of 21 July 1986,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 40/209 of 17 December 1985, in which the Assembly rationalized its consideration of drought and desertification issues,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/172 A of 19 December 1989 on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification,

Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989, included protection and management of land resources by, inter alia, combating deforestation, desertification and drought among environmental issues of major concern, and paid renewed attention to drought and desertification in its enunciation of the goals and objectives of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Deeply concerned at the dramatic effects of accelerating desertification, which have caused a substantial decline in agricultural output and served, in particular, to aggravate the current economic crisis in Africa,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on countries stricken by desertification and drought in Africa, 16/

Taking note of the work of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on this question and of Governing Council decision 15/23 of 25 May 1989, 17/

16/ A/46/286-E/1991/107.

17/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/44/25), annex I.

Taking note of the important contribution made by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office in helping the countries of the region to prepare for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and encouraging the Office to continue and intensify its efforts in that area,

Congratulating the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office on its organization of consultative meetings of the Sudano-Sahelian countries at Ouagadougou from 13 to 15 February 1991 and at Cairo from 8 to 10 July 1991, in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and its detailed preparations for those meetings in the countries concerned with such partners as the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel and the Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development,

Welcoming the results and resolutions of the Ministerial Conference for a joint policy to combat desertification in the countries of the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel and the Economic Community of West African States, in the Maghreb countries, in Egypt and in the Sudan, held at Dakar in July 1985 and November 1985 and at Algiers in October 1988,

Welcoming also the renewed efforts of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office aimed at increasing support for the countries and organizations concerned and at cooperating with them, in particular with the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel and the Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development,

Aware of the efforts that are already being made in the African region, inter alia, to combat desertification and drought, and the commitments made at the consultative meeting of the Sudano-Sahelian countries held at Cairo in July 1991, organized by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, and at the African Regional Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development, held at Kampala in June 1989, 18/

Bearing in mind the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, 19/

Acknowledging that, in view of the scale and gravity of desertification and drought, programmes to combat those scourges require financial and human resources beyond the means of the countries concerned,

Noting with appreciation that the Regional Conference for Africa of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, held at Marrakesh, Morocco, in June 1990, adopted the International Scheme of Land Conservation and Rehabilitation in Africa, with a view to giving to the countries of the region the means of developing their own programmes for the fight against land degradation, including desertification,

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18/ See E/ECA/CM.16/19.

19/ DP/1991/45.

1. Reaffirms the need for sustained implementation of General Assembly resolution 44/172 A;

2. Recognizes the commendable, sustained efforts made by the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel to combat desertification and drought, and welcomes its fruitful cooperation with Governments and United Nations organs and bodies;

3. Appeals urgently to the international community, particularly donor countries, to continue to support the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel, the Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development and the Ministerial Conference for a joint policy to combat desertification;

4. Welcomes with satisfaction the progress made by the International Fund for Agricultural Development through its Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification;

5. Stresses the fundamental importance of South-South cooperation in executing programmes to combat desertification and drought and of the support of the international community that is necessary for such cooperation;

6. Recalls with satisfaction the interest expressed at the Summit of the seven major industrial nations, held in Paris from 14 to 16 July 1989, in aspects of the struggle against desertification and, specifically, in the planned Sahara and Sahel observatory; 20/

7. Notes with appreciation the solidarity with which the international community has responded to the assistance needs resulting from the emergency in Africa, particularly with regard to food aid, emergency medical assistance and the fight against grasshoppers and locusts;

8. Recommends that, within the framework of bilateral and multilateral development assistance programmes, the fight against desertification and drought should be given priority attention in keeping with the scope of those problems;

9. Invites the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office to increase its efforts to mobilize additional resources in support of efforts of the countries within its purview and of the relevant regional organizations, notably the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel and the Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development;

10. Urges the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office to continue to help the Sudano-Sahelian countries to prepare for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the follow-up activities resulting therefrom;

11. Invites the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue to provide the countries of the region with all the technical assistance required to implement the recommendations of the International

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20/ A/C.2/44/11, para. 51.

Scheme of Land Conservation and Rehabilitation in Africa and invites the international community to support the International Scheme and initiatives within the framework of the implementation of national programmes for the control of desertification and drought as well as the recommendations of the Conference on Agriculture and the Environment organized by the Government of the Netherlands and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to place greater emphasis, in the World Economic Survey, on the situation and prospects of all countries stricken by desertification and drought;

13. Further requests the Secretary-General, given the urgency of the situation of the countries stricken by desertification and drought, to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session on the countries concerned, taking into account the work being done on the subject in the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and to put forward specific, coordinated proposals for action, with due regard for the results of the third session of the Preparatory Committee of relevance to this issue.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Combating aridity, soil erosion, salinity, water-logging, desertification and the effects of drought in South Asia

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/172 of 19 December 1989, in which the imperative need to address desertification in the framework of the interdependence of nations was stressed,

Aware that South Asia, one of the most populous regions in the world, contains significant areas subject to aridity, soil erosion, salinity, water-logging, desertification and the effects of drought, which affect the lives of millions of peoples and the entire environment in the region,

Bearing in mind the work already undertaken on desertification and drought in this area by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other agencies,

Noting that no comprehensive assessment has been made of this problem in the region,

1. Requests the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and other international and national development assistance organizations, to undertake a study, within existing resources, which would assess the extent of this problem and its effects on the peoples of the region, and would also provide a framework for national and international

cooperative efforts, through appropriate existing United Nations, donor and international development institutions and national organizations and programmes, to tackle this problem in its physical and human dimension, and to present the study to the Economic and Social Council in 1992;

2. Appeals to the international community to provide expertise and assistance to further national efforts, in the concerned South Asian countries, for concrete action to ameliorate the situation over a period of time.

33. The First (Economic) Committee also recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Reports considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of desertification and drought

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the following reports:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification; 21/

(b) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, including the implementation of the Plan in the Sudano-Sahelian region. 22/

21/ A/46/157-E/1991/55.

22/ E/1991/L.29.

UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1991/127
23 July 1991

Original: ENGLISH

Second regular session of 1991
Geneva, 3-26 July 1991
Agenda item 8 (k)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION:
TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Report of the First (Economic) Committee

1. The First (Economic) Committee considered the question of the transport of dangerous goods (agenda item 8 (k)) at its 9th and 16th meetings, on 17 and 23 July 1991. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (E/1991/68).

2. At the 9th meeting, on 17 July, the Committee held a general discussion on the item. At the same meeting, an introductory statement was made by the Chief of the Transport Division of the Economic Commission for Europe.

3. Also at the 9th meeting, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics made a statement.

Recommendation contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

4. Chapter I of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (E/1991/68) contained a recommendation for action by the Council.

Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

5. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ahmed Amaziane (Morocco), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution entitled "Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods".

GE.91-71375/0911H

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

6. The First (Economic) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1983/7 of 26 May 1983, 1985/9 of 28 May 1985, 1986/66 of 23 July 1986, 1987/54 of 28 May 1987 and 1989/104 of 27 July 1989,

Noting the ever-increasing volume of dangerous goods in worldwide commerce and the rapid expansion of technology and innovation,

Bearing in mind the continuing need to meet the growing concern for the protection of life, property and the environment through the safe transport of dangerous goods while facilitating trade,

Aware that, in order to achieve internationally harmonized laws, the specialized agencies and other international organizations and interested Member States are committed to taking the recommendations of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods as a basis for the formulation of their requirements and regulations and therefore rely on the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the increasing need for cooperation with other international bodies, such as the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Health Organization and the European Economic Community, involved in activities related to the transport of dangerous goods,

Reaffirming the desirability of widening the decision-making base of the Committee by encouraging the participation of developing countries and other non-member countries in its future work,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods during the biennium 1989-1990 1/ and of the new and amended recommendations approved by the Committee for inclusion in its existing recommendations; 2/

2. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To incorporate in the existing recommendations of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods all the new and amended recommendations approved by the Committee at its sixteenth session;

1/ E/1991/68.

2/ See ST/SG/AC.10/17 and Add.1-6.

(b) To publish the new and amended recommendations in all the official languages of the United Nations, in the most cost-effective manner, not later than the end of 1991;

(c) To circulate the new and amended recommendations immediately after their publication to the Governments of Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the other international organizations concerned;

3. Invites all Governments, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the other international organizations concerned to transmit to the Secretary-General their views on the Committee's work, together with any comments they may wish to make on the amended recommendations;

4. Invites all interested Governments and the international organizations concerned, when developing appropriate codes and regulations, to take full account of the recommendations of the Committee;

5. Recommends again that adequate funding be provided to support the work of the Committee as indicated in the report of the Committee on its sixteenth session, if possible by setting up a special fund;

6. Reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to make available, within existing resources, the staff necessary for the adequate servicing of the Committee, namely one additional Professional and one additional General Service post, and regrets that the requests made in its resolutions 1983/7, 1985/9, 1986/66, 1987/54 and 1989/104 have not yet been met;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council in 1993 on the implementation of the present resolution.

UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1991/128
25 July 1991

Original: ENGLISH

Second regular session of 1991
Geneva, 3-26 July 1991
Agenda item 8 (l)

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: EFFECTIVE MOBILIZATION AND INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

Report of the First (Economic) Committee

1. The First (Economic) Committee considered the question of the effective mobilization and integration of women in development (agenda item 8 (l)) at its 10th, 16th and 18th meetings, on 17, 23 and 24 July 1991. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation on operational activities of the United Nations system (A/46/206-E/1991/93 and Add.2);

(b) Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its thirty-fifth session (E/1991/28); 1/

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development (E/1991/99).

1/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 8 (E/1991/28).

GE.91-71454/0946H

2. At its 10th meeting, on 17 July, the Committee held a general discussion on the item and heard statements by the representatives of Austria, the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community), Togo, Finland (on behalf of the Nordic countries), Canada, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Turkey, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Bahamas and Chile and the observer for Australia. Statements were also made by the representatives of the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization. The representative of the United Nations Development Programme made a statement.

Summit on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women

3. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the representative of Turkey introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.12) entitled "Summit on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women", on behalf of Australia, 2/ Austria, Belgium 2/ Chile, Colombia, 2/ Denmark, 2/ Egypt 2/ France, Italy, Kenya, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Nigeria, 2/ Norway, 2/ Senegal, 2/ Somalia, Spain, Thailand and Turkey, subsequently joined by the Bahamas, Germany, Greece, 2/ New Zealand and Uganda.

4. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ahmed Amaziane (Morocco), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and amended operative paragraph 2 thereof by deleting the word "Member" before the word "States".

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as orally amended (see para. 7 below).

Note by the Secretary-General on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development

6. At its 18th meeting, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that it take note of the note by the Secretary-General on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development (E/1991/99) (see para. 8 below).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

7. The First (Economic) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

2/ In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

Summit on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1989/106 of 27 July 1989 on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 45/129 of 14 December 1990 on the Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 3/ in which the Assembly reaffirmed, inter alia, its determination to encourage the full participation of women in economic, social, cultural, civil and political affairs,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 43/101 of 8 December 1988, in which, inter alia, the Assembly endorsed the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and, in particular, the importance given therein to women gaining access to investment finance, supporting women's income by removing legal and institutional restrictions, promoting women's savings and providing training in and assistance with financial management, savings and investment,

Recognizing that the mobilization of the potential of all groups of the population of developing countries, in particular the large number of the rural poor, is essential to eradicate poverty and eliminate hunger,

Convinced that rural women's critical roles in food production, income generation, household maintenance and family welfare could be strengthened if institutions, States and communities took adequate measures to reduce the legal, financial and other constraints impeding women's effective access to productive and labour-saving resources and to support and enhance women's productive capacities and economic activities,

Bearing in mind the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 4/ in particular article 14 thereof, in which it is stipulated, inter alia, that States Parties shall take into account the particular problems faced by rural women and the significant roles which rural women play in the economic survival of their families,

Welcoming the initiative taken by a group of First Ladies to convene a Summit on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women in Brussels on 25 February 1992 under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Fabiola of Belgium,

Noting with interest the technical support being provided for the Summit process by the Regional Consultations in Asia, Africa, the Near East and Latin America organized by the International Fund for Agricultural Development,

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3/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

4/ General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

1. Requests the International Fund for Agricultural Development to continue to provide all necessary input and other support for the Summit in cooperation and coordination with other appropriate United Nations organizations;

2. Urges all States, appropriate organs, organizations, and bodies of the United Nations system and relevant non-governmental organizations to participate in and support the Summit on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women and support its objective for developing a strategy for the economic advancement of rural women in the 1990s;

3. Expresses the hope that the Summit will give an impetus to the achievement of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and thus help rural women to assume their role in the development process and share fully in its benefits, and thereby provide an important input to the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Peace and Development, to be held in 1995.

* * *

8. The First (Economic) Committee also recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Note by the Secretary-General on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on the effective mobilization and integration of women in development. 5/

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5/ E/1991/99.